

# THE ALBERTA MUNICIPAL



# Counsellor

PUBLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS IN THE INTERESTS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Vol. 10 No. 11

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

December, 1965



## THE OLD WISH TO EVERYONE!

### TO BE PRESENTED TO LEGISLATURE

### PREMIER OUTLINES PROGRAM

A tax discount of \$50 each for Alberta home-owners occupying their own homes is included in "a new program for a new generation of Albertans" announced by Premier Ernest C. Manning in a telecast on October 26 last. Designed to keep government policies "in line with changing conditions", the new proposals will be placed before the Legislative Assembly at its session which opens February 17. In the telecast, Premier Manning asked for "the benefit and help of criticisms and advice" from the public.



Other policies for which the approval of the Legislature will be sought include:

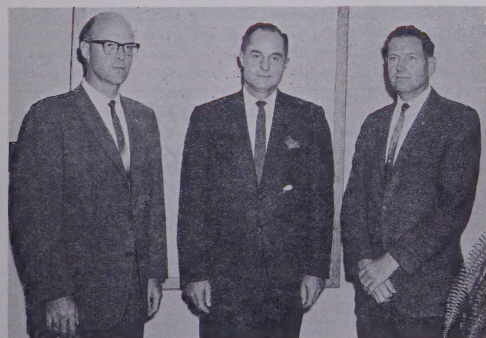
- Change to a simple majority of the percentage of vote for such regional or provincial issues as Daylight Saving Time, commercialized Sunday sports, fluoridation, etc. This also applies to money by-laws if more than 50% of those eligible express their views.

- Some form of special review court or ombudsmen if recommended by the present committee studying government boards and tribunals

- A Declaration of Human Rights Bill
- An additional \$20 million from provincial revenues for the education foundation fund
- Unconditional assistance to municipalities to be one-third of royalties from oil and gas development
- Payment by the Province of increased road grants and a larger share of freeway construction costs (To Page 6)

### MOVED TO JASPER AVENUE ADDRESS

### APPEAL BOARD REORGANIZED



K.J. SPREAD

K.A. LUKE

D.A. McTAVISH

Appointment of K.A. Luke to succeed E.F. Breach as Chairman of the Assessment Appeal Board was announced in October by Hon. A.J. Hooke, Minister of Municipal Affairs. Coming to the Department in 1945, Mr. Luke has been Secretary-Member of (To Page 5)

### SEASON'S GREETINGS

Again it is our pleasure to wish readers of this publication and municipal people everywhere a joyful Christmas season . . . with good health, prosperity and peace of mind for all in the days of the year ahead.

And may the season bring to each one of us also a clear realization of the importance of our doing everything possible to promote good will toward men . . . knowing that only in this way shall we achieve the peace on earth which we all seek.

*Gordon Moyer* *A.J. Hooke*

Deputy Minister

Minister

### GORDON MOYER NEW PRESIDENT

### AAMD HOLDS BIG CONVENTION

Meeting in Edmonton's Macdonald Hotel November 16 to 19, delegates attending the 57th Annual Convention of the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties elected Gordon W. Moyer of Fort Saskatchewan as their new President. Mr. Moyer who has been a member of the Association executive for sixteen years, replaces J.M. (Mickey) McKay whose resignation after some fifteen years on the executive, took effect with the close of the Convention.

Elected as Vice President at the business session was C.L. Doan of Innisfail who has been Director of District No. 1 for the past seven years. Director Fred White of Spirit River was not up for re-election in District No. 3, but M.R. Parker, Reeve of the County of Strathcona No. 20, was returned as Director of District No. 2 for another term. Replacing Mr. Doan in District No. 1 is R.W. Brown of Acme, Reeve of the M.D. of Kneehill No. 48.

In his final presidential address delivered during the first morning session, Mr. McKay announced that he was leaving the (To Page 7)



EXECUTIVE OF THE AAMD FOR 1966: (Seated) President G.W. Moyer of Fort Saskatchewan; Mrs. M. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer; Vice President C.L. Doan of Innisfail. (Standing) Directors, M.R. Parker of Ardrossan; R.W. Brown of Acme; Fred White of Spirit River. (Photo by Lloyd Gilmour)



THE SECOND PAGE . . .

UNT0 US A CHILD IS BORN

For unto us a child is born,  
unto us a son is given:  
and the government shall be  
upon his shoulder:  
and his name shall be called  
Wonderful, Counsellor,  
The mighty God,  
The everlasting Father,  
The Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and peace  
there shall be no end,  
upon the throne of David and upon his kingdom,  
to order it, and to establish it with judgment,  
and with justice from henceforth even forever .  
The zeal of the Lord of Hosts  
will perform this.  
o Isaiah 9; 6-7

THE CHANGING SCENE

COUNTY of GRANDE PRAIRIE #1	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . W.R. Weber
COUNTY of LACOMBE #14	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . R.B. Robbins
COUNTY of MOUNTAIN VIEW #17	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . J. Riddoch
COUNTY of ST. PAUL #19	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . A. Roy
COUNTY of CAMROSE #22	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . H. Pearce
COUNTY of MINBURN #27	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . F. Trofanenko
COUNTY of LAC STE. ANNE #28	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . E. Belzil
M.D. of ROCKY VIEW #44	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . D.A. Lenihan
M.D. of STONY PLAIN #84	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . O.W. Schuster
M.D. of SMOKY RIVER #130	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . M.A. Rochan
TOWN of ATHABASCA	Mayor . . . . . D.J. Corse
TOWN of BONNYVILLE	Mayor . . . . . A. Muller
TOWN of BOW ISLAND	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . J.S. Vang
TOWN of BROOKS	Mayor . . . . . I.L. Nonnecke
TOWN of CALMAR	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . J.P. Trieber
TOWN of CLARESHOLM	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . R.R. Hartfelder
TOWN of DIDSBURY	Mayor . . . . . H.E. Allenson
TOWN of GRAND CENTRE	Mayor . . . . . R.G. Robinson
TOWN of GRIMSHAW	Mayor . . . . . R.H. Wiebe
NEW TOWN of HIGH LEVEL	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . H. Buholzer
TOWN of HIGH PRAIRIE	Chairman, Board of Administration . . . . . A.A. McClarty
TOWN of IRVINE	Mayor . . . . . T. Anderson
TOWN of MAGRATH	Mayor . . . . . C.H. Taylor
TOWN of MANNING	Mayor . . . . . K.K. Balderson
TOWN of PEACE RIVER	Mayor . . . . . A. Liknes
TOWN of PICTURE BUTTE	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . E.R. Whitmey
	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . P. Sisson

TOWN of PONOKA	Mayor . . . . . J.H. Labrie
TOWN of PROVOST	Mayor . . . . . Dr. W.C. Acton
	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . J.S. Stewart
TOWN of REDWATER	Mayor . . . . . M. Koziol
TOWN of ST. ALBERT	Mayor . . . . . R.S. Fowler
	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . L. Wheatling
TOWN of STETTLER	Mayor . . . . . R.W. Sloan
TOWN of TROCHU	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . H.C. Somerville
TOWN of TWO HILLS	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . M.J. Olynk
TOWN of VALLEYVIEW	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . A.R. Koberstein
TOWN of VERMILION	Mayor . . . . . S.C. Heckbert
TOWN of VIKING	Mayor . . . . . A.E. Caldwell
TOWN of VULCAN	Mayor . . . . . C.G. Ness
TOWN of WESTLOCK	Mayor . . . . . R.A. Sutherland
VILLAGE of ANDREW	Mayor . . . . . G. Topolnisky
	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . N. Wakaruk
VILLAGE of ALLIANCE	Mayor . . . . . E.O. Lysne
VILLAGE of ALIX	Mayor . . . . . R.R. Straub
VILLAGE of BARONS	Mayor . . . . . E. Schiebaut
	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . Mrs. R. Lyon
VILLAGE of BENTLEY	Mayor . . . . . R.H. Garries
VILLAGE of BERWYN	Mayor . . . . . D. Johnson
VILLAGE of BITTERN LAKE	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . G.C. Harris
VILLAGE of BON ACCORD	Mayor . . . . . E. Brenman
VILLAGE of BRUDERHEIM	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . Mrs. E. Hennig
VILLAGE of CANMORE	Mayor . . . . . J.B. Eklof
	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . R.E. Ansley
VILLAGE of CARMANGAY	Mayor . . . . . B.C. Brown
VILLAGE of CAROLINE	Mayor . . . . . L. Rhodes
VILLAGE of CARSTAIRS	Mayor . . . . . M.H.C. Ford
	Secretary-Treasurer . . . . . U.B. Brauer
VILLAGE of CHIPMAN	Mayor . . . . . J. Kryzanowski
VILLAGE of CZAR:	Mayor . . . . . W.T. Large ●

THIS MONTH

A NEW PROGRAM for A NEW GENERATION	From a Telecast by Premier E.C. Manning . . . . . 1 and 6
IT'S BEEN A REAL GOOD YEAR	By J.M. McKay, Retiring President, AAMD . . . . . 3
The LOCAL AUTHORITIES BOARD (Conclusion)	By C.G. Macgregor, Chairman . . . . . 4
Secretary's Calendar	. . . . . 5

THE ALBERTA MUNICIPAL COUNSELLOR  
Authorized as second class mail by the Post Office Department,  
Ottawa, and for payment of postage in each.  
Published monthly by the Department of Municipal Affairs, Government of Alberta, for better understanding between persons engaged  
in the various aspects of local government within the Province. Contents may be reprinted without restriction but a credit line is  
appreciated. Articles and information about the municipal scene are welcomed and the publication will be mailed without charge upon  
request. Address enquiries to:  
The Alberta Municipal Counsellor  
Department of Municipal Affairs  
Edmonton, Alberta

... FOR THE ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICTS &amp; COUNTIES

# IT'S BEEN A REAL GOOD YEAR

BY J. M. MCKAY, RETIRING PRESIDENT

● MR. MCKAY'S FAREWELL ADDRESS TO THE 57th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE ASSOCIATION



Your executive was invited to present a brief on your behalf to the Public Expenditures and Revenue Study Committee on October 7th. Our solicitor, A.M. Brownlee, was requested to prepare this brief in consultation with the members of your executive. It was our objective in making this presentation to offer only suggestions and recommendations that would be constructive and in the best interests of rural municipalities in the Province. We endeavored to project our thinking sufficiently far into the future so our recommendations might have a stabilizing effect upon future municipal considerations. Since there was no opportunity to discuss the recommendations contained in the brief with the membership prior to presentation, I will comment on a few of them at this time.

The members of your executive were of the opinion that since there has been a gradual transformation by a majority of municipal districts to counties, this was the type of rural municipal administration that would prevail in the years to come. We were alarmed by the development in the County of Sturgeon where the county was voted out of existence over an issue that had nothing to do with the structure of local administration. We endeavored to impress upon the committee this was not to be considered as a vote against the county type of administration while at the same time the committee was informed we favored the gradual and voluntary transformation to counties over any compulsory course of action.

## ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES:

The rapid increase in the cost of providing public service and the consequent increase in property taxes has caused the general public to focus its attention upon the assessment procedures and the assessment structure of this province. In earlier days there was little concern over the relationship of the level of assessment in one municipal unit as compared with another. As long as properties within an area were treated fairly there was no reason for concern. However, with the arrival of the Hospital Benefits Act and the Foundation Program for Education, where the principle was adopted that all assessable properties should contribute to these programs in direct proportion to their assessed values, then it became apparent all assessments must not only be on a uniform basis but the principle of equalization must apply where assessments had been developed at different levels of value. It naturally follows that procedures had to be developed which were much more technical than anything heretofore and assessors had to be trained so their appraisals would be uniform under all circumstances. The tax paying public has been left far behind and I believe it is correct to say taxpayers in general know very little about our assessment structure or the procedures under which it operates. These developments have led your executive to recommend that remedial steps should be taken as soon as possible.

(1) We suggest a comprehensive study of the entire assessment field should be made to determine whether or not uniformity and equity exists in the over-all distribution of responsibility for the provision of tax revenues.

(2) We suggest that the whole philosophy of assessment should be written in a form that is reasonably simple for all to understand. This should be made available to interested parties so they might inform themselves on all phases of assessment.

(3) We also recommend that an assessment commission representative of both provincial and municipal jurisdictions should be established which would be responsible only to the Executive Council. The commission would be charged with the responsibility for equalization of assessments, supervision and control of assessing practices and procedures, the training and qualification of assessors and a program of public information that would keep all appropriate officials fully informed as to contemplated changes.

In making these foregoing proposals we wish to make it very clear we are in no way being critical of people now being charged with these responsibilities. We sincerely believe that any problems that have arisen have not been caused by the inefficiencies of the personnel involved but have been entirely due to the system under which they must operate. Assessment in general has become so important and has been brought so clearly into public focus that it should be upgraded to a position where the public can be confident that it is being given all the attention it deserves.

We were pleased with the recent announcement by the Honorable Premier that increased financial assistance to all municipalities was in the offing. It was particularly pleasing to note that his government was willing to place greater confidence in municipal jurisdictions by attaching the municipal assistance grant to the return from oil and gas royalties. If past experience can be used as an indicator this revenue should progressively increase within the foreseeable future. The Foundation Program for Education is to receive an additional \$20,000,000 of government assistance. This could take care of most supplementary requisitions that are now in existence. It appears that additional assistance will be forthcoming to district highway construction once the regional road studies have been completed. We appreciate that one sector of the taxpayers will receive tax relief through the proposed Home-Owner grant. Details of this new venture are not available so we would prefer to reserve judgment until some later date. Certainly this can only mean more funds will be available to the municipal financial pool but it will undoubtedly have far reaching effects that are difficult to assess until more information is available. However, it is only fair to state that when one considers the Premier's proposal in its entirety, a real effort is being made by the government to assist property owners without serious erosion of the stability of local government.

## RETIREMENT FOLLOWING CONVENTION:

Mr. Chairman, you will remember at last year's meeting in Calgary I indicated I would soon retire from active municipal life. I now consider it is desirable that I do so at the close of this convention. During the many years I have served you in an executive capacity I have become devoted to this Association and all the people associated with it. I do not feel I can leave these ranks without making some suggestions as to how this fine organization can improve its position from both within and without. I trust you will receive these suggestions in the spirit in which they are given as I certainly do not wish you to think I am trying to direct operations after I have gone.

All my life I have been closely associated with the rural life of this Province and I have had the opportunity of examining it from a number of different points of view. It is alarming to note the degree to which it is being overshadowed by the explosion of the larger urban centres. Some people in high places are inclined to write off the rural influence as a factor in the future social development of the Western Prairies. This will be true only if the rural population is prepared to let this happen. Rural organizations must raise their sights and present a picture of confidence, stamina and maturity to the remainder of our society. Might I suggest there is no other rural organization in Alberta that is better suited to this task than you. This organization is more representative of all geographical areas, all cultures, all religions and all political philosophies than any other rural group in Alberta. You are blessed with an organization, men and women with ability and the necessary financial stability to enable you to become leaders in this worthwhile cause. I believe rural people have the right to expect you will champion their cause. You will be amply rewarded for any efforts extended on their behalf. Should you accept this challenge, then it seems to me, that this Association is in need of some reorganization that will better equip it to perform the ever increasing responsibility that will be placed upon it. It is imperative that you present a picture that others will respect and admire.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR REORGANIZATION:

The following are a few suggestions for reorganization that I would like to submit at this time:

(1) The executive of the Association would be increased by two new directors. I would suggest the province be divided into five regions: the Peace River Block and four others. Each of these would be represented by a director who would be elected at an annual meeting of the region held within the boundaries of the region. Regular meetings would be held in all regions and the respective directors would report on the activities of the Association. The President and Vice President would be elected at large as they are at present.

(2) It appears to me the time has arrived when consideration should be given to the employment of a permanent executive secretary. This person would be charged with the responsibility of implementing the policies developed by the delegates and (To Page 8)



• DUTIES AND POWERS OF

## THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES BOARD

C. G. MACGREGOR, CHAIRMAN

(Final of Two Parts)

Last month Mr. Macgregor gave a general outline of The Local Authorities Board Act together with some of the problems dealt with at Board hearings. He continues below with some of the conditions requested for Annexation Orders.

Less common requests are those

(1) to order that the town shall not install sewer and water in a portion of an annexed area, because a majority of the affected residents had septic tanks and wells

(2) to direct that the town's development and zoning by-laws shall not apply to a parcel, so that the owner may continue to allow aged and independent citizens to erect or skid in modest homes without interference.

In the larger annexations, such as annexation of towns to cities, we receive many more requests for special terms and conditions of annexation. These may take the form of requests to

- (1) fix store hours
- (2) fix rates of business taxes
- (3) provide that various surcharges (revenue taxes) may not be levied in respect of existing gas or electricity rates
- (4) provide for the "take-over" of private bus and garbage collection businesses operating under permits and agreements.

(5) provide for placement of office administrative staff, police and fire forces, engineering and maintenance employees; etc., including the establishment of their seniority, pay rates and holidays.

These, then, are some of the matters which the Board must decide when issuing an annexation Order.

### QUESTIONS TO BE STUDIED:

Naturally, the Board must analyze very carefully the effects of granting an application in full, in part or in refusing the petition. We must study the impact of an Order on the general community and seek questions as

(1) Will taxable assessments in the added area be increased? (This matter involves many factors since there are different bases of making assessments in different municipalities. As an instance, in the County of Strathcona, machinery and equipment in the large refineries is assessable. In the City of Edmonton machinery and equipment is not assessable. The City uses a business assessment in its place.)

(2) Will real property taxes be increased in the added area? By how much?

(3) Will other taxes, service charges and business taxes be increased in the annexed area? How about the picture in the enlarged area?

(4) Will utility rates be higher or lower?

(5) Will services - snow plowing, fire protection, police protection - be as satisfactory under annexation?

(6) How will the assessment of the enlarged area be affected by the annexation?

(7) How will the borrowing power of the enlarged municipality be affected?

(8) How will real property tax rates be affected in the enlarged area?

(9) How will the debt structure be affected by the annexation?

(10) How will utility operation be affected? What capital investment is required.

(11) What is the extent and value of vacant areas accruing through annexation?

(12) What will be the impact of school integration (if ordered by Department of Education) on the tax bill of the average householder?

### ORDERS OF THE BOARD:

When we have sorted out all the above matters and many others the Board meets to make decisions respecting them. An Order is then drafted (usually by the Chairman) and reviewed by the Board members. After making any changes which are agreed upon, the Order is typed, signed and mailed to the applicant, to the other interested municipalities, the affected assessors and planning authorities, and of course, a copy is published in the Alberta Gazette.

The Order giving the decision of the Board sets the effective date of implementation and the terms and conditions of the annexation. In the case of major decisions, the release is followed by the dissemination via the press, radio and television of "expert" views

on the whole problem . . . even before the public has had an opportunity to read the report, let alone to study and digest it. Telephone calls at home and at work, with innuendos continuing for a year or so, makes this stage a trying period to say the least.

Before leaving the matter of annexations - and we deal with over 40 per year - may I emphasize our Board is in actual fact and practice entirely "on its own" - a condition which must maintain if good work is to be done. We are not interfered with by the Government or its members, and our decisions reach our employer at the same time that they become public knowledge.

Relating to powers, there is an appeal of the Board's decisions upon a question of law or a question of jurisdiction. Such appeals would be heard by the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. (Sec. 61 and 66). In this connection, it is my personal view that the Courts could have great difficulty in maintaining equitable decisions if appeals of our Order were generally allowed in respect of matters within the Board's purview. The matters appealed would no doubt largely be in respect of nature, area and proposed use or need for annexed properties or terms and conditions relating to assessments and taxation, etc. These are not matters of law - but of opinion.

Further on the question of appeals in respect to annexations to cities, any municipality that feels an Order of the Board has imposed on it a financial hardship, may request the Lieutenant Governor in Council to take remedial action.

### DEBENTURE BORROWINGS:

The next function of our Board which I would like to discuss rather briefly is the subject of Debenture Borrowing applications by municipalities and school boards. It is the law that all those authorities must apply to the Board for authorization to borrow monies by way of debenture.

Why, you may ask, is this procedure necessary? Let's review this history of municipal debenture borrowing for a moment and we shall get some answers to the question.

In 1898, when the Province was but a part of the North West Territories, there existed towns, villages and rural municipalities which required sewers, drainage ditches and waterworks, even as some still require them today.

The Municipal Ordinance (towns and rural municipalities) and the Village Ordinance provided that debts contracted by these municipalities should not exceed 10% of the value of the assessable property in the municipality. The "assessable property" valuation was that determined by the appointed local assessor for land, buildings and improvements, personal property and even income. The proposed borrowings required the approval of a 2/3 majority of the ratepayers and the assent of the Lieutenant Governor in Council. Since assessed values were, in those days, closely related to the "going price" of such properties you may readily see that "booms" in real estate created abnormally large borrowing powers and "depressions" left municipalities with abnormally large debts and low assessment bases on which the municipality could levy to meet the ever-recurring annual debenture payments.

In the 1912 Annual Report of the Department of Municipal Affairs, Deputy Minister John Perrie reporting to his Honorable Minister, Charles Stewart, wondered . . . "whether or not monies should be borrowed and debentures issued is (also) a matter that rests with the ratepayers . . .". In 1914, with the debt situation deteriorating in many municipalities, he reported . . . "it would appear advisable that some action be taken in the near future whereby more control will be exercised by some central authority, to prevent the incurring of a large indebtedness which will afterwards form too heavy a load for the municipality (urban) to carry . . .". He goes on . . . "The idea of future greatness, is I am sorry to say too frequently fostered by irresponsible parties who have something to gain and nothing to lose by the municipality going to larger indebtedness that is warranted by actual conditions . . .". He then adds . . . "some measure of control whereby all requests for debenture indebtedness must be approved by some independent authority before such indebtedness can be incurred, would, I think, be of great assistance to these municipalities and to the credit of the province as a whole . . .".

Statutory municipal borrowing limits have fluctuated over the years. The municipal debt limit for towns was fixed at 20% of the assessed value of rateable property in the town.

In 1920, the debt limit in villages was fixed at 10% of the assessed value of lands only. In 1922, the village limit was set at 15% of assessed value of land (not including improvements). In 1927 the borrowing limits for towns and villages were 20% of rateable assessment and 15% of rateable assessment, respectively.

Finally in 1934, the debt limit was set at 20% of the assessed value of rateable property in both towns and villages; and it stands that way today - except that certain borrowings are not now "charge-



# The LOCAL AUTHORITIES BOARD (Continued)

able" to the aforesaid 20% limit. For instance, the 20% limit does not require inclusion of school debt, public utility debt or the special assessment portion of local improvement debts.

To go back to John Perrie's report in 1914, I must mention that he got his wish respecting the appointment of "some independent authority", for in 1915 there was established the Board of Public Utility Commissioners (since 1961 called the Public Utility Board) which then was charged as the Local Authorities Board is now, with the responsibility of approving or disapproving all municipal and school debenture borrowings.

Before approving a debenture borrowing, we investigate the financial condition of the applicant municipality, the need for the borrowing, the engineering reports respecting the projects for which monies are to be borrowed, check footages, special assessment rates, the validity of the authorizing by-law, the borrowing terms and interest rates - and, of course, we determine whether the municipality has legislative authority to carry out the project for which monies are to be borrowed.

In 1964, our Board examined some 327 debenture borrowing applications, out of which 20 applications were refused in whole or in part and 17 others were still under consideration at the year's end. Cities alone were authorized to issue debentures in that year totalling almost 33 1/2 million dollars.

## CONTROLLED LOCAL AUTHORITIES:

The third function of the Board is that respecting the control of local authorities which have got into serious financial difficulties. You will remember in my earlier remarks I mentioned that under certain circumstances we investigate and subsequently supervise and control the financial affairs of "debt-ridden" municipalities or school districts. Our powers in these matters are set out in Division 1A of the Act are quite broad, though the implementation of our decisions respecting the "cure" for the financial ills, does not become final until approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council has been obtained.

Briefly we may arrange for the re-financing of debts, extend time for payment of debentures, vary the rate of interest payable on debts, authorize the issuance of new debentures to enable payment of outstanding accounts, among other things. We also control the mill rates and the expenditures of controlled municipalities.

At the moment 12 local authorities are under control by the Board. These controlled municipalities may request the Board to revert to their former position. Such applications are in fact few and the conditions for release are difficult since we could hardly allow creditors to suffer further defaults.

## THE MUNICIPAL TAX EXEMPTION ACT:

At the 1965 Session of the Legislature, an Act was passed entitled "The Municipal Tax Exemption Act". Under its provisions, the Local Authorities Board is charged with the investigation of all future applications from "non-profit organizations" for tax exemptions, and for investigation and review of all previously granted exemptions which were initiated by Private Acts of the Legislature. There are about 95 of these.

We are required to conduct public hearings of these matters and make a report of our findings and recommendations to the Minister of Municipal Affairs for consideration of the Legislature. The Act says we have until the 1st day of January, 1967 - or such later date as may be set by the Minister - to review the exemptions now in effect under private Acts.

I should mention that there are other statutory tax and assessment exemptions as provided in The Assessment Act. Our Board has no jurisdiction in these matters. Now there is no point at all in a municipality applying for review of any exemption which has been granted by private Act because we have to go out and review it anyway. Later, after all have been reviewed, we shall make a report to the Provincial cabinet with recommendations whether total exemption, partial exemption or no exemption should be granted. Our report and recommendations will be reviewed and if acceptable will be held over and dealt with at the next session of the Legislature.

New welfare and charity organizations may apply under the Act directly to us. We investigate the applications and if necessary hold hearings. Section 5 of the Act sets out the information that has to be contained in the application to the Board for tax exemption. Name of the applicant must be given, as well as the name of the municipality in which the property is located, the legal description of the land in respect of which the exemption is requested including the area, the assessment or valuation of the land and the improvements that are on it, the purposes for which the applicant uses the property or different parts of the same property, the nature and extent (To Page 8)

## SECRETARY'S

JANUARY													
S	M	T	W	T	F	S							
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29

## CALENDAR



### Municipal District Act

5th - Secretary-treasurer shall prepare a statement of monies received and their disposition, submit to council at next meeting and enter a copy in the minutes. Sec. 61(v).

Jan. 1 - Taxes are deemed due on this date of the year in which they are imposed. Sec. 330.

Jan. 1 - Secretary-treasurer's security shall be renewed at the beginning of each year. Sec. 60(2).

Jan. 3 - First meeting of council to be held on this day. Sec. 39.

Jan. 10 - Secretary-treasurer shall complete the books and accounts of the previous year and make ready for audit. Sec. 61(x).

Jan. 31 - Auditor shall complete the audit on or before Feb. 1st. Sec. 68.

Council shall, as soon as practicable in each year, prepare estimate of revenues and expenditures. Sec. 331.

### Town and Village Act

15th - Secretary-treasurer shall prepare a statement of monies received and their disposition, submit to council at next meeting and enter a copy in the minutes. Sec. 67(r).

Jan. 1 - Taxes are deemed due on this date of the year in which they are imposed. Sec. 352.

Jan. 1 - Secretary-treasurer's security shall be renewed at the beginning of each year. Sec. 66.

Jan. 1 - Penalties not exceeding 6% shall be added to tax arrears if authorized by by-law. Sec. 373.

Jan. 10 - Secretary-treasurer shall complete books and accounts of the previous year and make ready for audit. Sec. 67(t).

Feb. 1 - Auditor to complete the audit on or before Feb. 1st. Sec. 74.

Council shall, as soon as practicable in each year, prepare estimate of revenues and expenditures. Sec. 353.

### Assessment Act, 1960

Jan. 1 - Secretary-treasurer shall prepare an assessment roll not later than Jan. 1st in the year following the year in which the assessment has been made. Sec. 26.

Jan. 1 - Secretary-treasurer shall mail assessment slips not later than Jan. 1st. Sec. 28.

Jan. 1 - In the case of an annual assessment, notice of preparation of the assessment roll shall be posted and published not later than Jan. 1st. Sec's. 30 and 31.

Jan. 1 - After this date appoint members to sit as a Court of Revision. Sec. 32.

Note: Assessment appeals to be received, in the case of an annual assessment within 30 days after mailing of assessment slips or, in the case of an adopted assessment, 30 days from the date of publishing notice of preparation of roll. Sec. 31.

Assessment of property which should have been assessed not later than Oct. 31 and was missed, to be assessed forthwith. Sec. 55.

### Municipalities Assistance Act

For those municipalities who submit population figures for grant calculation purposes, it is pointed out that a census if desired must be taken by Jan. 25th and the population figures must be submitted to the Minister on or before Jan. 31st. Sec. 4. E.J.B. ●

## APPEAL BOARD REORGANIZED

(From Page 1)

the Board for the past ten years. He was formerly with the Field Service Branch at Brooks, Medicine Hat, Drumheller, Rocky Mountain House and Calgary.

New Member of the Assessment Appeal Board is D. A. McTavish, who has been with the Assessment Branch of the Department since graduating from the University of Alberta in 1951. A native of Calgary, Mr. McTavish has been an Assessor-Inspector for the past two years.

Third Board Member is K. J. Spread who transferred to Municipal Affairs from the Department of Lands and Forests in 1954. Mr. Spread was appointed to the Assessment Appeal Board in 1962.

New headquarters of the Assessment Appeal Board are now in the Royal Trust Building, 10039 - Jasper Avenue. The move from the Municipal Affairs Building was made on November 5. ●



## A NEW PROGRAM FOR A NEW GENERATION OF ALBERTANS

- o Increased subsidies for those qualifying under Alberta's voluntary medical insurance plan
- o Establishment of a Ministry of Youth to encourage activities and training of young Albertans

Text of Premier Manning's telecast follows:

For some time I have felt we should re-examine our provincial programs which have been in effect for years. In this progressive Province circumstances change constantly and government policies must be revised periodically to keep them in line with changing conditions. Accordingly, since the last session my colleagues and I have been working on a comprehensive new program for a new generation of Albertans. We have revised and up-dated many policies to meet the new circumstances and the modern viewpoints and desires which you frequently have expressed. Last week I discussed these proposals with the government members of the legislature. We made further improvements in the light of the viewpoints they voiced on your behalf.

### SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE:

Here, then, are some of the highlights of our new program for modern Alberta and its new generation of progressive people. In the first place we want to give new meaning to the fundamental principle that the proper function of a democratic government is to give the people it serves the results they want from the management of their public affairs. To this end, we propose to simplify the processes whereby you can indicate your wishes to your government. Provision will be made for plebiscites at public request on regional or provincial issues such as Daylight Saving Time, commercialized Sunday sports, fluoridation, etc., and your wishes, as indicated by a simple majority vote, will be recognized and implemented.

In the case of producer marketing boards, provision will be made for the voluntary registration of producers eligible to vote and a board will be established if supported by a majority vote to those who register.

Votes on money by-laws are in a different category in that such decisions once made cannot be reversed after the money has been borrowed and spent. We propose that 66 2/3% favourable vote now required should apply only if less than 50% of those eligible vote. If more than 50% vote, such by-laws would be approved by a simple majority.

On this same subject at strengthening the rights and responsibilities of individual citizens, we propose three other steps:

- (1) We are reviewing provincial statutes and regulations with a view to eliminating unnecessary restrictions which interfere with the autonomous operation of local elected authorities or which, unnecessarily, circumscribe individual freedom of choice.
- (2) If the present committee now examining into the operation of government boards and tribunals finds that there is need for some form of special review court or ombudsman to safeguard the rights of individual citizens, the government will take the necessary steps to implement such recommendations.
- (3) A Declaration of Human Rights Bill will be submitted to the next session to embody in law a declaration of those human rights to which we all subscribe.

### FOUR POINT-PROGRAM:

The next and much bigger problem we have tackled is that of developing a program that will more adequately meet the increasing financial needs of municipalities and school boards. To this end we will recommend to the next session a four-point program under which an additional fifty million dollars a year will be allocated from provincial revenue sources:

- (1) To reduce the amount of money municipal and school authorities must raise by local taxation.
- (2) To provide municipalities with an assured source of revenue other than the present property tax.
- (3) To give a measure of relief to those most seriously affected by present tax levies on real property, and
- (4) To aid municipalities in meeting the capital costs involved in providing freeways, bridges and roads to handle modern highway traffic demands.

Under this program an additional twenty million dollars will be allocated to the education foundation fund. This will meet the anticipated increases in school capital and operational costs during the coming year and make possible a substantial reduction in present supplementary requisitions.

We further propose to allocate to municipalities, with no strings attached, one-third of the total revenue accruing annually to the Province from royalties obtained from the development of our oil and

gas resources. ● PREMIER MANNING (From Page 1)

This alternative to the present municipal grants program will increase municipal revenues the first year by some four million dollars and the revenue from this source will increase annually as more oil and gas is marketed.

We propose, further, that the province will pay 75% of the construction costs of approved freeways, including bridges; 50% of the construction costs of approved expressways and main arterial roads; and 100% of the costs of highways through fringe areas within a city.

Road grants to I.D.'s, the Special Areas, counties and municipalities, will be increased pending completion of engineering studies and inventories leading to a program which will ensure a province-wide grid system of secondary roads serving towns and villages as well as rural municipalities.

A million dollars a year for five years will be allocated for the construction and improvement of roads linking highways with provincial parks.

### TAX DISCOUNT:

To ease the burden of municipal taxation for the group of taxpayers most seriously affected, we will recommend to the next session that homeowners occupying their own homes, either urban or rural, will be entitled to a tax discount in the amount of \$50.00.

This discount, which the homeowner will be authorized to claim when he pays his tax bill, will be made up to the municipalities by the provincial treasury. This proposal is in no sense a handout or a repayment to people of their own tax dollars. The principle of discounts is not new. In this case the discount is for the legitimate twofold purpose. First, to give a measure of relief to a category of taxpayers who need it most without depleting tax revenues from commercial and industrial property which is what happens when there is an

### FOR YOUR APPROVAL

I want you to be fully informed as to what we propose well ahead of the (1966) session to give you time to tell us if these proposals meet with your approval before they are enacted into law. This is the way democracy should work.

o Premier Manning

across-the-board reduction in property taxes. Second, it will establish a desirable differential in the impact of local taxation as between homeowners and commercial and industrial property.

### DEALING WITH AGRICULTURE:

The third section of our program deals with agriculture. It will include a new imaginative livestock program with emphasis on steps to improve quality and grade and embodying livestock and livestock diseases research. A livestock dealers' insurance fund will be established to protect producers up to 80% of the market value of livestock sold through registered dealers in case of bankruptcy or default. The fund will be financed by a levy of a few cents per head on livestock sold through registered dealers. The government will advance the money to establish this fund and recoup it over an extended period. This advance will be sufficient to reimburse those farmers who suffered serious losses through the Veregyn bankruptcy case. This insurance fund will reduce the bond requirements imposed on livestock dealers and will provide much better protection to our farmers than is provided by the bonds presently required.

A long-range soil and water conservation program will be implemented, including the development of stock watering projects. Detailed plans are being prepared for stage development of the Red Deer River diversion scheme.

### VOLUNTARY MEDICAL INSURANCE:

Next, we propose an important revision of the Alberta voluntary medical insurance plan to more completely bring the benefits of comprehensive medical services within the financial reach of all Alberta residents. A new third category of participants eligible for subsidy will be brought into the plan comprised of citizens whose taxable income is between \$500 and \$1,000.

For those with no taxable income, the present subsidy will be increased from 50% to 80% of the cost of their medical insurance.

For those whose taxable income is under \$500, the subsidy will be increased from the present 25% to 50%, and

For those whose taxable income is from \$500 to \$1,000, the subsidy will be 25% of the insurance premium.

The government-imposed ceilings on all premiums will be retained. Additional policies will be offered under the plan to include prescription drugs and other para-medical services. Policies, including these additional services, will be at higher

(To Page 7)



PREMIER OUTLINES PROGRAM

(From Page 6)

premium rates than the regular coverage but the government subsidies will apply to all policies if the purchaser is eligible. This will provide our people with a wide range of choice in the matter of medical services coverage most suitable to their particular needs.

We are investigating the possibility of establishing a self-insurance fund to protect all citizens against catastrophic financial liabilities where, through exceptional circumstances, excessive medical or hospital costs are incurred.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH:

The last major feature I have time to deal with tonight is something of special interest to all young people. Over 700,000 of Alberta's people are under 25 years of age. Recognizing that the standards and strength of society depends on the extent to which our youth develop their vast constructive potentials, we propose to establish at the next session a special Ministry of Youth. The purpose of this Ministry will be to encourage constructive youth activities and organizations - to stimulate interest in youth training for leadership in social, cultural, business and public affairs - to develop a constructive sports and physical fitness program to provide assistance to those who prove they have the potential to compete in provincial, national or international championship meets and, in general, to give leadership in all forms of constructive sports and recreation and in the profitable use of leisure time.

There are many other important new features in our program which I will tell you about on future telecasts but I hope what I have said tonight will give you some idea that we are on the threshold of new and great things in this Province. Already Alberta is the leading province in Canada but what we confidently expect to achieve in the future will far surpass what we have known in the past.

I hope you have caught some of the enthusiasm that permeates these new and far-reaching ideas. If so, let us go forward together to the great future that is ours beyond these new and broadened horizons, grateful that we live in a Province with such vast potentials and such limitless opportunities. ●

AAMD HOLDS BIG CONVENTION

(From Page 1)

and expressed his sincere thanks to the individuals and organizations with whom he had worked during "a term of office longer than any one person is entitled to expect". He saw his work as "an opportunity to receive a wonderful education in municipal administration and the opportunity to develop many friendships which I greatly treasure".

At the convention banquet Thursday evening Mr. and Mrs. McKay were the recipients of presentations made on behalf of the Association by Mr. and Mrs. Moyer. In thanking his former colleagues, Mr. McKay said his new duties as general manager of the Alberta Hail Insurance Board would enable him to maintain his contacts with many of his old friends.

PREPARE FOR CENTENNIAL:

Substituting for Hon. A. J. Hooke, Minister of Municipal Affairs, who was representing Alberta at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in New Zealand, was J. R. D. Findlay, newly-appointed Centennial Co-ordinator for Alberta. In a stirring address delivered Thursday afternoon, Mr. Findlay urged municipal delegates to share in making Canada's Centennial the success it should be. "It's your party", he declared, stressing the "personal involvement" required of Canadians to be aware of our national heritage as well as our future. He asked for the organization of local centennial committees where these have not already been established.

Alan Brownlee, Q.C., reviewed significant events of the past year for the delegates to illustrate various legal responsibilities belonging to municipalities. Followed with interest were his observations relating to road sign placement (not mandatory, but often desirable) the dumping of rubbish in ditches, permits for burning stubble, the need for a strong definition of natural water courses and safeguards in expropriation procedures. Dealing with liability insurance, Mr. Brownlee warned of a tendency to misinterpret its nature and application. He said it was necessary for local authorities to determine their legal liability for damage claims, some of which might be fraudulent or improper.

EVALUATION OF SERVICES:

Featured during the big convention were two panels, the first of which discussed "Evaluation of the Association's Services to its Members". Panel members were J. C. Masson, Secretary-Treasurer of Red Deer County No. 23; Councillor E. Koehli of Flagstaff M.D. No. 62; and Councillor Emil Cammaert of Wheatland County No. 16. Mr. Masson said it was a sign of maturity to want to take a hard look

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark street shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

at oneself and commended the Association on the services provided. He suggested it might now be time to expand these to central purchasing of all school and municipal supplies and felt emphasis might be placed on the central office conducting research and disseminating information. Referring to training programs, Mr. Masson wondered if there was need for the "in-training of councillors".

Councillor Koehli also commended the Association on such services as the purchase of grader blades, tires, culverts, and sprays, etc. He saw little advantage in an enlarged executive, but favored the appointment of a full time executive secretary.

Third speaker was Mr. Cammaert who said he was proud of Association services but wanted closer liaison between the head office and local councils. He recommended that the number of directors be increased to seven and that a "managing secretary" be employed.

UNDERGROUND TELEPHONE CABLE:

Progress being made in laying underground cables for telephone communication was reviewed in detail by Hon. Ray Reierson, Minister of Telephones, Minister of Labour, during the Wednesday afternoon session. Mr. Reierson saw communications the life blood of commerce and said it was closely related to the better life on the farm being sought in Alberta. He said his Department was laying a basic network of communications as modern as any in the world and in time all farms would be tied into this network. He invited the more than 1100 farm mutual telephone systems to amalgamate with the Alberta Government Telephones and said the underground cable system now being installed will greatly improve farm service with no more than four farms on each circuit.

Mr. Reierson said there were 25,000 farms in Alberta without telephones but foresaw a time when all farm homes would enjoy the convenience of a modern phone. Outlining some of his "dreams" for the Province, he said the aim was for the most modern telephone system all belonging to the people with the City of Edmonton system forming a part. This was necessary, he pointed out, if the service is to keep pace with modern developments in the field. Communications, he stressed, are the mainspring of society and a good telephone system is a vital part of the economic and social life of rural Alberta. He said the current program, to take from 8 to 10 years, would cost in excess of 60 million dollars.

SECOND PANEL DISCUSSION:

The second panel, meeting Thursday morning, was made up of R. Zander (Stony Plain M.D. No. 84), A. Patton (M.D. of Willow Creek No. 26), Antonio Aloysio (Athabasca County No. 12) and Reeve Vince Durba of Spirit River M.D. No. 133. Subject under discussion was "Alternatives for the Property Tax".

Mr. Zander said municipal authorities had "reached the end of the property tax with its hungry mill rate for schools" but declared himself against a sales tax. He came out strongly in support of a 5% royalty on oil and gas and all natural resources, which he said would take care of the cost of education.

Mr. Patton agreed that property taxes were already too high but felt it was up to the government "to figure out where the money is to come from". He thought greater value should be obtained from the tax money collected, and said many expensive schools now had rooms which are not being used.

In his address, Mr. Aloysio observed that taxes are the result of public demand for services and recalled a time when individuals provided for themselves many services now expected from government. Referring to the tax discounts proposed recently by Premier Manning as well as the increased sums to be made available for municipal purposes, Mr. Aloysio said these new proposals would make unnecessary any alternative to property taxes. He warned that heavier taxes on natural resources might only serve to discourage their development.

Vince Durba wanted to know why increasing costs were taken for granted and thought stronger controls were needed. He didn't see too much wrong with the property tax, but said a production tax would be a good alternative in rural areas.

Delegates heard addresses on agriculture and on welfare during the Thursday afternoon session. Dr. E. E. Ballantyne, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, together with several officials of the (To Page 8)



## MRS. HICKEY PASSES



MRS. L. HICKEY  
Waskatenau, she has made her home in Edmonton for the past 38 years.

A highly respected member of the Field Service staff for the past thirty years, Mrs. Lillian E. Hickey died November 16 at the age of 63. She leaves a daughter, Cecilia (Mrs. A.J. Jacobs of Calgary) and a son, Frank, a chemical engineer now living in Brisbane, Australia. Also surviving is a brother, Chas. B. Hill, former Superintendent of Child Welfare with the Alberta Government.

Mrs. Hickey was born in Coventry, England, in 1902 and came to Canada with her parents when she was twelve.

Living for a time at Bon Accord and at Waskatenau, she has made her home in Edmonton for the past 38 years.

In her business career she held various stenographic positions in Edmonton before joining the staff of the Field Service Branch, Department of Municipal Affairs, on January 15, 1952. In all but the first month or two her position has been secretary to the Director of the Branch.

### AAMD HOLDS BIG CONVENTION

(From Page 7)

Department, reviewed progress being made in the agricultural field. Expressing satisfaction with the first year's experience in crop insurance, Dr. Ballantyne said the plan would be applied in two of three new districts in 1966. He said greater attention is now being paid to research, with more provincial money being spent for research purposes.

Hon. L.C. Halmarst, Minister of Public Welfare, gave a detailed report of the aims of his Department and outlined progress being made in the many phases of its work. He said the emphasis is now turning to preventive measures and that the whole welfare program was being shaped to this end. He said the reaction to the new program is being sought from municipalities, and considered that duplication from various agencies must be avoided.

#### PROGRESS in HIGHWAYS:

Hon. Gordon Taylor, Alberta's Minister of Highways, dealt with two topics during his address at the final session Friday morning. First of these was the new provincial policy of building access roads to major provincial parks within Alberta, while the second related to the long range program of building a grid of secondary roads involving all municipalities "including the I.D.'s of the Province".

Referring to the first topic, Mr. Taylor said there was a great need to bring access roads to provincial parks, now being visited by increasing numbers of people, up to good blacktop standards. He said one million dollars would be set aside each year during the next five years for this purpose. There were some 40 parks within the Province, he said, of which the Department of Lands and Forests had designated 18 for early priority. Now a local responsibility, these roads would be turned back for the municipalities to maintain as their paving was completed.

Turning to municipal or market roads, Mr. Taylor said he didn't favor road grants being spent according to the various local divisions which he said was impractical as trying to divide the Provincial highways vote into 63 pieces so that each MLA would get a share without regard to the overall program. Tracing the development of highways in Alberta, he said up to 1951 they had done the best they could with what they had, but with highways jammed with cars at that time a new program of modern construction was undertaken.

Mr. Taylor said Alberta loses about one year in every five because of bad weather, but in spite of this "we have a network of main highways of which we can all be proud". A full time planning branch has been established, he continued, and one of the studies undertaken showed municipalities spending more than half their expenditures on maintenance. This was not good enough, he said. Alberta has almost 100,000 miles of right of way open, but the need now is for a complete inventory. "When we know what is needed," the Minister declared, "we can come up with a blueprint for a grid of roads."

Mr. Taylor said a simplified classification of roads would be asked for to include main highways, local or access roads and the grid of secondary roads, which he described as "complementary and supplementary to the main highway system". With the need for roads determined, he said a time schedule and a tentative estimate of costs could be prepared, with more efficient planning resulting in better use from fewer roads. With more than half the municipalities now started on their inventories Mr. Taylor thought the new blueprint for the entire grid system of roads would be finished by the fall of 1966.

### The LOCAL AUTHORITIES BOARD

(From Page 5)

of the improvements on the land, the sources of income from which the applicant maintains the property and operates the facilities thereon, and the amount of annual income received from the operation of the institution or whatever it might be. Also the application has to state whether any part of the property is used for residences or accommodation for employees of the organization and if so the extent and necessity for them living on the grounds. The last subsection (j) is very, very broad, in that it says such other information as we may require.

After an application has been made, a copy must be served on the municipality in which the organization is located. They have 40 days in which to file an objection against any exemption being granted. At the end of 40 days if no protest has been received from the municipality it is assumed that they don't object to the granting of the exemption. We still have to go ahead, however, and if we hear it or even review the application, we have to give another 40 days notice to both the municipality and the organization in order for them to hire someone to represent them and present the case for them. Where it is a new application such as I have just mentioned, and after we have reviewed it, we make our report and recommendations to the government.

Section 5 of the Act deals with requirements in making applications. It sets out in complete detail what the application has to contain and later, if you are not satisfied with an exemption that has been granted under this Act, how to apply for a further review.

### IT'S BEEN A REAL GOOD YEAR

(From Page 3)

the executive, co-ordinating the activities of all the various regions and generally overseeing the operations of the Association. Your executive would face a real responsibility in making certain that policy is developed by the elected officials only, otherwise the entire organization will crumble from within. It is quite likely the above suggestion if implemented would call for some increase in membership fees. However, I am of the opinion it would be money well spent.

#### THANKS TO ALL:

Mr. Chairman, I say to you in all sincerity that it is with a great deal of regret that I find it necessary to leave the executive of your Association. You have given me a term of office longer than any one person is entitled to expect and for which I am truly thankful. Over the years I have always worked and associated with a wonderful group of individuals. Their loyalty and friendship will never be forgotten.

I must offer sincere thanks to your Vice President, G.W. Moyer; to Directors, C.L. Doan, M.R. Parker and Fred White and also to your Secretary, Mrs. Matilda Smith and her staff. I have enjoyed working with these people and I wish them every success in the future.

Outside of the executive there is a great number of people to whom I can do little more than say that I appreciate all the kindness that has been extended to me and thank them for the contribution they have made to the municipal life that has been my pleasure to experience. This list of people must include: Your immediate Past President, C.P. Hayes and your very able solicitor, Alan M. Brownlee, Q.C.

The councillors and the secretary of the County of Vulcan, whose kind assistance and understanding has made it possible for me to stay with you for so many years.

My many friends in the Department of Municipal Affairs of which Hon. A.J. Hooke, Minister, A.W. Morrison, Deputy Minister, Bruce Ramsay, Chief Municipal Inspector, Bruce Laidlaw, Assessment Commissioner, are only a few.

My colleagues of the Provincial-Municipal Advisory Committee: Ross Ellis of High River, Alderman Ken Newman of Edmonton and the Secretary, R.A. Cantelon.

The municipal secretaries and all other municipal officials.


My many friends among commercial organizations that are closely allied to your Association.

My many fraternal friends in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

I offer a very special thanks to all of the councillors that I have come to know so well. I trust you will remain in office for many more years and you will give the same support to your new executive that you have given to me. You have granted me the opportunity to receive a wonderful education in municipal administration and the opportunity to develop many friendships which I greatly treasure. In return for these I can only hope that I have made some worthwhile contribution to the municipal life of this Province.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you.





Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2022 with funding from  
Legislative Assembly of Alberta - Alberta Legislature Library